

CLASSIFICATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ NFB

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/WHSS

SOURCE REF:

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

No Item Number

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR FAZIO,

STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CENTER MR FRY, NMCC//ATTENTION

CIA REP, TREASURY DEPT//INFO

25X1A9a

WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS

INVOLVED

ITEM NO: 1

DATE: 4 DECEMBER 1974

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE PRIME MINISTER POST

25X1A2g

25X1X6

REF

PRESIDENT MARIA ESTELA DE PERON IS

OVERWORKED AND ARGENTINE LEADERS ARE WEIGHING THE POSSIBILITY OF

CREATING THE POST OF PRIME MINISTER TO RELIEVE HER OF ALL BUT

CEREMONIAL DUTIES. NAVY COMMANDER ADMIRAL EMILIO MASSERA,

WHO REPORTEDLY HAS BECOME A CONFIDANT OF THE PRESIDENT,

IS RUMORED TO BE THE MOST LIKLY CANDIDATE FOR THE POST. MASSERA

HAS NO CLOSE POLITICAL TIES AND WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO POLITICIANS

AND TO THE ARMED FORCES.

THERE HAVE BEEN PREVIOUS RUMORS THAT A PRIME MINISTER OR

COUNCIL OF STATE WOULD BE INSTALLED TO HELP MRS. PERON. SUCH

DATE:

ORIG:

UNIT:

EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

CLASSIFICATION

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

E 2 IMPDET

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PLANS HAVE NOT COME TO FRUITION, PROBABLY BECAUSE OF THE OBJECTIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER LOPEZ REGA, WHO WOULD VIEW SUCH A PROSPECT AS A THREAT TO HIS POSITION. LOPEZ REGA EXERCISES STRONG INFLUENCE OVER THE PRESIDENT AND CONTROLS THE ACCESS OF MINISTERS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO WISH TO SEE HER.

ON THE OTHER HAND, SOME RECENT REPORTS SUGGEST THAT MRS. PERON AND LOPEZ REGA ARE NOT ON GOOD TERMS. THUS, SHE MIGHT IGNORE LOPEZ REGA AND OPT FOR RELIEF BY ACCEPTING SOMEONE WHO COULD SERVE AS A SCAPEGOAT IF POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC CONDITIONS TAKE A TURN FOR THE WORSE. E-2 IMPDET.H

{SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: WH DIV AND NIO [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

DATE: 4 DEC 74
 ORIG: [REDACTED] WHSS 25X1A9a
 UNIT: CIA OPS CTR
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FORM 1-74 4C

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